

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 10015 190316Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 /055 W
----- 059328 /62

O P 190209Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1122
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT KS
SUBJ: MYONGDONG TRIAL--EIGHTH APPEALS SESSION

REF: SEOUL 10012

1. EIGHTH SESSION MYONGDONG APPEALS TRIAL TOOK PLACE DECEMBER 18. COURT HEARD DEFENSE SUMMARY STATEMENTS FROM FOURTEEN LAWYERS OF DEFENSE TEAM. THEY GENERALLY RESTATED THEMES THEY HAD MADE DURING TRIAL.

2. SMOOTHNESS OF DEFENSE PRESENTATION MARRED BY INEPTNESS OF ONE YOUNG DEFENSE LAWYER. KIM KWANG IL WAS LONG STANDING MEMBER OF DEFENSE TEAM BUT BECAUSE HE RESIDES IN PUSAN HAD NOT BEEN AS INTEGRATED AS OTHER LAWYERS IN DEFENSE STRATEGY. ONE OF LAST LAWYERS TO SPEAK, HE OPENED HIS REMARKS BY CLAIMING THAT PROSECUTION HAD PROVED ITS CASE AND DEFENDANTS WERE GUILTY. BEFORE HE COULD SAY ANOTHER WORD, YUN PO SUN AND KIM TAE CHUNG PROTESTED AND ASKED HIM TO STEP DOWN AS DEFENSE ATTORNEY. COURT ADVISED KIM THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER IF HE DESISTED. AFTER DEFENSE RESTED CASE, KIM KWANG IL ASKED COURT IF HE MIGHT SPEAK TO DEFENDANTS TO EXPLAIN WHAT HE WAS TRYING TO TO. COURT GRANTED REQUEST OVER PROSECUTION OBJECTION.
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 10015 190316Z

KIM EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS TRYING TO DRAW PARALLEL BETWEEN MYONGDONG TRIAL AND PILATE'S TRIAL OF JESUS CHRIST WHICH WAS CORRECT ACCORDING TO EXISTING LAW BUT NOT WITH BASIC MORALITY. SOME DEFENDANTS WERE NOT SO PLEASED WITH HIS EXPLANATION.

3. COURT SCHEDULED NEXT SESSION FOR DECEMBER 20. TRIAL WAS

WELL ATTENDED. DEFENDANTS' WIVES WERE NOT RPT NOT PRESENT.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRIALS, ATTORNEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL10015
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760466-0294
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761229/aaaaayxe.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SEOUL 10012
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MYONGDONG TRIAL--EIGHTH APPEALS SESSION
TAGS: PINT, KS, (KIM KWANG IL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006